

Customer No.:31561
Application No.: 10/709,767
Docket No.: 13292-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action requests an Election/Restriction on one of Group I and Group II. In addition, if Group I is elected, then the species I-IV corresponding to Figs. 4-7 need to be further elected. Applicants have preliminarily elected claims 1-7 corresponding to Group I and species I (Fig. 4). However, Applicants respectfully request the consideration of claims 17-20 (Group II) together with the elected claims 1-7 (Group I). Claims 19-20 have been amended to correct typographic errors. Claims 1-7 and 17-20 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Election/Restriction

Applicants have preliminarily elected claims 1-7 corresponding to Group I and species I (Fig. 4). Applicants request the consideration of claims 17-20 (Group II) together with the elected claims 1-7 for at least the reasons set forth below.

In Group I, the printhead controller is disclosed. In Group II, an ink jet printer is claimed. The ink jet printer, as recited in claim 17, includes a basic structure of a printer with the printhead controller of Group I. In other words, Group II is a usual application of Group I in an ink jet printer, and the patentability of Group II is considered on Group I. Applicants respectfully request that claim 17-20 be considered together with claims 1-7.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-7 and 17-20

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for examination, while claims 1-7 have been preliminarily elected for examination.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-7 and 17-20 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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May 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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